

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF JUNE 29, 1939.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Board, in the Union Trust Building, Baltimore on Thursday, June 29, 1939.

Present:

J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller  
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer

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The Board considered the several protests which had been made by Departments which had been previously notified that they were to be moved to Annapolis, to the new State Office Building, and by various individuals and organizations interested in the location of these Departments, and, after due consideration, it was decided that the plans heretofore approved by the Board for the movement of these offices could not be changed, and that the arrangements made would have to stand.

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Mr. Laurence Hall Fowler appeared before the Board and submitted two estimates which had been furnished him by the Davis Construction Company, for partition work in the new State Office Building, on the third and fourth floors, one an estimate in the amount of \$15,990.00, covering additional work on the third floor, as outlined in Blue Print No. C-4-B, and another in the amount of \$6,485.00, covering additional work on the fourth floor, as outlined in Blue Print No. C-5-B.

After reviewing the Blue Prints and the detailed estimates of the Davis Construction Company the Board voted to accept the two estimates, and authorized the Architect to furnish the Contractor with an order for the work.

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Mr. Fowler submitted to the Board estimates which had been received from four concerns, for furniture for the new State Office Building.

After reviewing the estimates and discussing the subject fully with Mr. Fowler the Board authorized him to accept the bid of John C. Knipp & Sons, in the amount of \$6,885 for furnishing the furniture and draperies as called for in the specifications and drawings prepared by the Architects.

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Mr. William A. Codd, Chief Auditor of the State Roads Commission, submitted to the Board a list of accounts due the State Roads Commission, by various debtors, which he felt were uncollectible. The Board review the accounts and during the review Mr. Thomas M. Jenifer, Special Assistant Attorney General for the State Roads Commission, came into the meeting and the Board requested his opinion as to whether the accounts were uncollectible. Mr. Jenifer stated he did not know enough about them at the time to make an answer to the question, but would be glad to review the accounts and make his recommendations as promptly as possible.

The Board deferred any action in the matter until a further report could be received from Mr. Jenifer.

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Mr. Jenifer and Mr. Codd took up with the Board the question of leave of absence of employees, particularly with reference to the provisions of Chapter 621 of the Acts of 1939, which repeals and re-enacts with amendments Section 18 of Article 64-A of the Code. Mr. Jenifer had been in touch with Col. Jones in connection with this question, and submitted a copy of a letter which he had addressed to the State Roads Commission under date of June 29, 1939. It was thought that the Board of Public Works would be interested in this question since it has some authority as to regulations of work hours etc., under the provisions of Chapter 64 of the Acts of 1939.

Mr. Miles and Mr. Tawes thought that the question was important enough to defer until the return of Governor O'Connor from his trip to California, when it would be possible for the matter to receive consideration of all three members of the Board. A copy of Mr. Jenifer's letter of June 29, to the State Roads Commission was provided Governor O'Connor before he left on his trip.

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Mr. Codd took up with the Board the question of whether appropriations in the Budget of the State Roads Commission, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1939, for work in the various districts, were to be treated as individual items, or the total of the individual items was to be considered as the appropriation for the work to be done in the districts, with the analyses of the total being considered merely as information as to how the money was to be spent.

It was agreed that the total allotted for each district was to be regarded as the appropriation for the district, and that these amounts were not to be limited in their expenditure to the analyses shown for each district, with the understanding that the amounts appropriated for salaries and wages, for the districts, were not to be exceeded. The other items for oiling, shoulder work, gutter work etc., were being regarded as part of the total, without the expenditure for these particular items of work being limited to the estimated amounts shown as the cost of them.

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Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of Budget and Procurement, came before the Board to discuss various matters referred to him by the Board, for his consideration and report.

Mr. Kirkman stated that he looked into the question of disposal of sewage at the Eastern Shore State Hospital, and that it was his opinion that the State should enter into a contract with the City of Cambridge, for emptying the sewage of the institution into the sewerage system of Cambridge. This was agreeable to the Board and Mr. Kirkman promised to look after having the necessary agreements drawn when it was possible for this to be done.

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Mr. Kirkman discussed with the Board the letters addressed to it under date of June 19, relative to the use of appropriated receipts by Springfield State Hospital, to take care of the cost of opening a building at the institution for tuberculous patients.

It was agreed that no money could be made available to the institution from fees received from patients, or from any other source, but that if the institution could find it possible to take care of the additional expense of opening the building on August 1, out of its appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1939, it would be agreeable to the Board for the hospital to do this.

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Mr. Kirkman discussed with the Board his letter of June 19, addressed to it, relative to the request of Rosewood State Training School that it be authorized to proceed with the work of plans and specifications for new buildings and equipment, for which an appropriation of \$400,000.00 is included in the General Bond Issue of 1939, of which amount \$295,000.00 will be available out of the August 15, 1939 installment of the loan. It is requested that this \$295,000.00 be allocated for the following purposes:

Water System for Fire Protection and New Filtration Plant	\$ 50,000.00
Laundry Building and Equipment and Power Plant Equipment	200,000.00
X-Ray and Hospital Equipment	10,000.00
Remodeling and fireproofing buildings	35,000.00.

The Board approved the request as outlined above, and also approved the request that Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins be retained as Architect for the work, with Messrs. Eiser and Akers as Consulting Engineers, the fee to be paid to be 6% on the contracts made for the work, and this fee to include the work of the Architect and the Engineers.

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*Employees*

A letter addressed to the Board, under date of June 15, by Mr. Kirkman, relative to establishing uniform working hours etc., for which authority is given the Board, under Chapter 64 of the Acts of 1939, was discussed. Action in the matter was deferred until it would be possible to have a meeting at which all three members of the Board would be present, when this matter could be considered, along with the question raised by the State Roads Commission as stated above in these Minutes.

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6-29-39

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board that it would be necessary to name Counsel to furnish the Board with an opinion as to the validity of the General Bond Issue of 1939, so that this opinion will be available to the purchasers of the August 15, 1939 installment of the Loan.

It was agreed that the law firm of Marbury, Gosnell & Williams be retained to furnish the opinion.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the communication from the Miners Hospital, Frostburg, Maryland, asking authority to charge off as uncollectible, sundry accounts aggregating \$9,024.86. Dr. W.O. McLane, Secretary of the Board of Directors of Miners Hospital, in his letter of June 8 submitting the list of bad accounts, explained that in quite a number of the cases the patients were charity patients and it would not be possible to effect collection from them, and that perhaps there should not have been any charges entered for these cases. Dr. McLane also asked for authority to clear from his books an item of \$338.71, representing restricted receipts in the local First National Bank of Frostburg, as of October 1, 1932. The certificate covering this money was turned over to the StateComptroller's Office some time ago.

The Board approved the request that the bad accounts be written off as uncollectible, and that the item of \$338.71 be charged off the books of the hospital.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from the Montrose School for Girls, in which authority was requested for the employment of Mr. Lucien E.D. Gaudreau, for architectural services in connection with the erection of a proposed vocational building at the institution, and further that the school be authorized to expend an amount not exceeding \$100.00 for securing an appropriate topographical survey and the making of the necessary plats in connection with the contemplated structure.

The request of the school, as to the employment of Mr. Gaudreau, and the expenditure of the \$100.00, was approved, the expenditure to be made out of funds available to the school from the General Bond Issue of 1939, for construction work.

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Mr. Kirkman submitted to the Board a report on the proposed budget for the Department of Public Welfare, for the fiscal years 1940 and 1941. After reviewing the appropriation in detail in his letter, Mr. Kirkman recommended that the Board tentatively approve the budget, with the exceptions noted in his report.

Mr. Kirkman's report was duly considered and approved.

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Property

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter addressed to it by Mr. Kirkman under date of June 16, 1939, listing the equipment and other property owned by the State Department of Mechanical Engineering at the time it went out of existence, June 1, 1939. Mr. Kirkman recommended that certain of the equipment, as listed in his letter, be turned over to the Department of Budget and Procurement, and that the other equipment be distributed to state institutions and departments as need or use for the equipment was ascertained by him.

The Board approved Mr. Kirkman's recommendation.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter received from Cheltenham School for Boys, in which it was requested that the School be advised as to the Architect to be selected for the preparation of plans and specifications for the proposed new structures to be erected at Cheltenham. Mr. Lucien E.D. Gaudreau, Architect, had applied to the Board for the commission for this work, and it was agreeable to the Board that he be employed to prepare the plans and specifications and supervise the construction.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Secretary